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Pipeline Programs

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Pipeline Programs

Pipeline programs are designed to prepare and inspire students to pursue careers in medicine and medical research. SKMC is committed to providing experiences and education to middle school, high school, college, and graduate students from groups underrepresented in the health care fields to increase the pool of qualified candidates applying to careers related to medicine and medical research.

Our programs:

The Jefferson STEP-UP Medicine Program



In the summer of 2015, SKMC conducted the inaugural Jefferson STEP UP – Jefferson **S**ummer **T**raining and **E**nrichment **P**rogram for **U**nderrepresented **P**ersons in Medicine. This program is an eight week, highly selective, intensive and comprehensive summer enrichment program for college and college graduate students from groups traditionally underrepresented in medicine (underrepresented minorities, URM, as defined by the American Association of Medical Colleges, AAMC). It is designed specifically for students who are about to apply to medical school and is intended to enhance the student's chances of acceptance into medical school. The program includes a Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) preparation course through Princeton Review, workshops in the medical school

application, admissions interview skills enhancement, shadowing opportunities with physician faculty in a variety of medical specialties, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification and education in a variety of medical topics. In the 2015 inaugural year, twelve URM students successfully completed the program. Since then, thirty students have participated in the 2016 and 2017 programs.



Future Health Professions Program (FHPP)

In 2001, SKMC started the Future DOCS Program - a nine-week informational and experiential program for underrepresented minority and/or educationally/economically disadvantaged high school juniors and seniors from the School District of Philadelphia interested in careers in the sciences. It was designed to provide underrepresented minority and economically disadvantaged students with information and resources to assist them in considering a career in medicine and the medical fields. On average, close to one hundred students each year spent two hours once a week with SKMC students learning about the medical profession. Over the course of the program, students participated in both didactic as well as interactive sessions that provided health education as well as healthcare career opportunities. Highlights included visits to the Human Anatomy Laboratory and the Clinical Skills Simulation Center and talks from faculty from a variety of medical specialties (such as Internal Medicine, Emergency Medicine, Surgery, Family Medicine and Pediatrics).

In the fall of 2016, to give these high school students a broader exposure to the healthcare fields, the program was expanded to include Nursing, Health Professions, Pharmacy, Population Health and Biomedical Sciences and became The Future Health Professionals Program. This program gave students didactic and interactive sessions from students and faculty from all of the colleges that make up Thomas Jefferson University.

Faculty Initiatives

New URM faculty welcome meeting

SKMC is committed to the career development of all faculty at Jefferson but recognize that those from a racial or ethnic group that is underrepresented in medicine, a woman in a specialty in which women are underrepresented and/or those who self-identify as lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, or questioning sexual identity may have unique concerns such as reducing isolation or finding a mentor with a similar background. Dr. Karen Novielli, Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs and Professional Development, along with Dr. Bernie Lopez, Associate Dean for Diversity and Community Engagement, meet individually with new faculty from these groups. The meeting allows Drs. Novielli and Lopez to get to know the faculty member and provide mentorship and resources to assist in faculty development. It also helps the faculty member to better connect to the organization as they begin their academic career.